

PARMOTREMA LARENSE SP. NOV. FROM VENEZUELA (Lichenes:
PARMELIACEAE)

Manuel López Figueiras
Apartado postal 130
MERIDA, Venezuela.

Thallus laxe corticola triste cinereus viridis usque ad 3-4.5 cm diametro lobis rotundatis 7-8 mm latis cortice superiore subundulato margine sorediatis, revolute et sparse ciliatis, ciliis simplicibus 0.9-2 mm longis, soraliis subcapitatis confluentibus parcialiter submarginalibus, sorediis granulosis; strato corticeo superiore 25 μ crasso; strato gonidiali 10-15 μ crasso; medulla alba 20-25 μ crassa; strato corticeo inferiore 40-50 μ crasso, nigro rhizinato in marginibus evoluto et griseo usque ad griseum albescens, sparse rhizinate stricte zonaliter in marginalibus, rhizinis simplicibus, nigris densibus, parte media densioribus minus ad margines. Apothecia ignota.

Thallus adnate on bark, greenish ashy gray, 3-4.5 cm broad; lobes rotund 7-8 mm wide; upper cortex 25 μ wide, dull weakly undulate; margins sorediate, revolute and sparsely ciliate, cilia simple 0.9-2 mm long; soralia subcapitate, confluent, in part submarginal, soredia granulate; algal layer 10-15 μ wide; medulla alba 20-25 μ wide; lower cortex 40-50 μ wide, black and rhizinate but changing to brown or pale brown near margins,

sparsely rhizinate in a narrow zone at the margins; rhizines simple, black, dense at the center and decreasing towards the edges. Apothecia unknown.

Chemistry : Atranorin, lichexanthone (in the medulla), norlobaridone, unknown (loxodin ?).

Holotype: Venezuela, Edo Lara, Sierra de Barbacoas, entre Barbacoas y San Pedro, 1400-1500 m, corticícola, 12 marzo 1978, López Figueiras 19152 (MERF); isotype in US.

This specie is easily identified by the occurrence of lichexanthone in the white medulla, it's chemistry and the presence of soredia. Norlobaridone was identified by co-chromatography with *Parmotrema reitzii* Hale and *Parmotrema hababiabum* (Gyel.) Hale.

The occurrence of what is normally a substance cortical, lichexanthone, in the medulla of *P. larense* is of considerable taxonomic importance. Only three other lichens *Parmotrema ultralucens* (Krog) Hale, *Parmotrema diffractaicum* (Essl.) Hale and *Parmotrema conjunctum* Hale (Hale 1974) are known to have this substance in the medulla.

Literature cited

Hale, Mason E. Jr.

1965. A Monograph of *Parmelia* subgenus *Amphigymnia*, Contributions from the United National Herbarium, 36: 193-358.
1974. Notes on species of *Parmotrema* (Lichens: *Parmeliaceae*) containing yellow pigments, *Mycotaxon*, 1(2): 105-116.

Krog, Hildur

1974. *Parmelia ultralucens*, a new lichen
in subgenus *Amphigymnia*. *Bryologist*.
77(2): 253-256.

Acknowledgements

I Thank Mason Hale for his guidance, Padre López Palacios for the latin translation and M.Keogh for running the TLC. This work has been financed by CONICIT (subvención 51-26-BIO-S1:0981) and by C.D.C.H., ULA, (subvención FA-04-77 y FA-23-77).

